



PATENT  
Atty Dkt. No. 63.024

#13/D  
CJH  
6/27/98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MICHAEL HOUGHTON et al.

Serial No.: 08/441,443

Group Art Unit: 1815

Filed: May 15, 1995

Examiner: M. Zeman

For: NANBV DIAGNOSTICS AND VACCINES

AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 16 day of June, 1998  
By Richard J. Houghton

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed December 18, 1997 in the subject application with a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 18, 1998. Accordingly, a petition for a three-month extension of time and the requisite fee is submitted herewith, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17(c) and 1.136.

Reconsideration of the subject application in light of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Amendments

Please amend claims 40-48 as follows:

Claim 40. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a hepatitis C virus (HCV) antisense polynucleotide capable of specifically hybridizing to the sense strand of the genome of an HCV [or its complement], wherein the polynucleotide comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 8 nucleotides complementary to the sense strand of the genome of an HCV [or its complement], and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

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In claim 41, line 1, please replace "antisense polynucleotide" with the phrase  
-pharmaceutical composition--.